

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Notice of Market-Dominant
Price Adjustment

Docket No. R2015-4

CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 4

(Issued January 29, 2015)

To clarify the issues raised by the Postal Service's Notice of Market Dominant Price Adjustment in Docket No. R2015-4,¹ the Postal Service is requested to provide written responses to the following requests and questions. Answers should be provided to individual requests and questions as soon as they are developed, but no later than February 5, 2015.

Special Services

1. In the Notice, the Postal Service states that it "will be waiving permit fees for Merchandise Return Service and Parcel Return Service when a mailer has at least one outbound parcel sent using a permit." Notice at 32. Excel file "CAPCALC-SpecServ.xlsm," tab "G-4 Merchandise Return," cell "B36" contains the statement "[t]he Postal Service is assuming that 20 percent of existing permit holders will not meet the requirements for waived permit and accounting fees."
 - a. Please confirm that the Postal Service can use permit information to determine if a mailer that paid a Merchandise Return Service or Parcel Return Service permit fee also sent outbound parcels using a permit. If not confirmed, please explain.

¹ United States Postal Service Notice of Market-Dominant Price Adjustment, January 15, 2015 (Notice).

- b. There were a total of 1,767 paid permit fees for Merchandise Return Service in FY 2014. Please provide the percentage of mailers that paid these fees and also mailed at least one outbound parcel using a permit.
 - c. There were a total of 40 paid permit fees for Parcel Return Service in FY 2014. Please provide the percentage of mailers that paid these fees and also mailed at least one outbound parcel using a permit.
- 2. In the Notice, the Postal Service states that it “will no longer collect a signature at the time of delivery” for items insured for an amount between \$200.01 and \$500.00. Notice at 34. The Postal Service explains that “[m]ailers wishing to have the mailpiece signed for at the time of delivery for these items will need to purchase electronic Signature Confirmation or some other service that requires a signature.” *Id.* Please identify the calculations and source data used for this adjustment. If the calculations and source data have not been provided, please provide them.
- 3. In the Notice, the Postal Service states that the “existing Restricted Delivery service is being eliminated, and replaced with a Restricted Delivery option under all special services with which it could previously be combined.” Notice at 36. Excel file “CAPCALC-SpecServ.xlsm,” tab “F-7 Restricted Delivery,” cell “B17” contains the statement “[a]t this time we do not have the distribution of the volume by these combinations.”
 - a. Please confirm that Restricted Delivery will be available for the same services, with each service containing an identical price for restricted delivery, after the formal service is eliminated. If not confirmed, please explain.

- b. Please confirm that distributing the Restricted Delivery volume for each service in FY 2014 would lead to the same price increase calculation as contained in Excel file “CAPCALC-SpecServ.xlsm,” tab “F-7 Restricted Delivery.” If not confirmed, please explain.
4. Pages 53-55 of the Notice contain a discussion of Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) changes, including those for Special Services. The Postal Service proposes to “[s]eparate First-Class Mail and First-Class Package Service permit fees, and include Parcel Select Lightweight permit fee with Parcel Select rather than Standard Mail.” Notice at 54.
 - a. Please identify the location of these adjustments.
 - b. Please identify the calculations and source data used for this adjustment. If the calculations and source data have not been provided, please provide them.
5. In response to Order No. 2322 in Docket No. MC2015-8, the Postal Service notified the Commission that it would continue to offer Return Receipt for Merchandise Service. See Docket No. MC2015-8, Order Conditionally Approving Removal of Return Receipt for Merchandise Service from Mail Classification Schedule, January 15, 2015; Docket No. MC2015-8, Response of the United States Postal Service to Order No. 2322, January 28, 2015.
 - a. Please confirm that the Postal Service does not intend to make any changes to Return Receipt for Merchandise Service in this proceeding.

- b. If not confirmed, please file revised MCS language to reflect the discontinuance of Return Receipt for Merchandise Service. Please also provide a revised price cap calculation for Special Services. Please include the rationale for the adjustments to the billing determinants and explain any differences from Docket No. MC2015-8, Response of the United States Postal Service to Chairman's Information Request No. 1, December 10, 2014.

By the Acting Chairman.

Robert G. Taub